



## Florida House of Representatives

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**Johnnie Byrd**  
Speaker

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **HOUSE TO REFUND APPROXIMATELY \$15 MILLION TO STATE TREASURY**

TALLAHASSEE – - July 14, 2004 - Speaker Johnnie Byrd announced today the Florida House of Representatives will return approximately \$15 million to the State Treasury from its operating budget for Fiscal Year 2003-2004. Byrd attributes these savings to a number of initiatives and operational changes put into practice when he was appointed Speaker.

“Our primary objective was to save state funds by focusing resources on conducting the core business of the House, disposing of non-essential functions and hiring experts to do some tasks more efficiently, and utilizing technology when possible,” said Speaker Byrd.

Changes to the printing, duplicating, and distribution process resulted in elimination of 11 full-time positions and annualized savings of over \$500,000. Documents are now available online at MyFloridaHouse.com and on-demand at the Capitol. The House of Representatives now leases less office space than it did in 2001. The House also operates with 22 fewer full-time positions than it did in 2002, for a total annual savings of \$1.3 million. This represents a 4% reduction in staff.

Added Speaker Byrd, “This refund will represent a 26% savings of the House budget for Fiscal Year 2003-04, and demonstrates fiscal restraint in action and a promise kept to the taxpayers of this state.”

The exact amount of the refund will be determined in the next few weeks when the final calculations are completed.

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